shop-keepers and money-lenders, and sometimes to carry the nuts themselves to railway stations in the Násik and Thána districts for sale; and it is very difficult indeed to detect and apprehend them in the act. The Kolis, moreover, are lawless and violent, and the forest guards are not generally very ready to tackle them in the forests. Dealers from the Junnar Táluka of the Poona District come to the Akola frontier, and tempt the forest villagers to bring and sell to them illicitly acquired hirdas; and in the same way, on the north side, dealears from Násik induce the villagers to bring stolen hirdas to the Ghoti Station on the G. I. P. Railway. The large number of hirda trees on private lands in the Akola forest villages facilitate the robbing of the Government trees in the forests; and until effective control over hirdas being moved from villages and from the range, in head loads and by carts, is enforced by a system of passes under the rules of Section 41 of the Forest Act, it will not be possible to stop the smuggling that goes on. The Collector has recorded his opinion that "the short hirda crop is due to pilfering."

179. In the Sátára Division the quantity of hirdas brought to the departmental depôts was much greater than of last year, but the selling rates were very low, and consequently the revenue derived from this service was very much below the estimate.

II.—REMOVAL OF PRODUCE BY PURCHASERS.

180. The following statement shows the outturn, in cubic feet, of the timber removed from the forests of the several divisions of the Central Circle, by purchasers at their own expense and the amounts realized, compared with the results of the year preceding:—

No.	Division.	1891-92.		1892-93.	
		Timber in the rough.	Amount realized.	Timber in the rough.	Amount realized.
		C. ft.	Rs.	C. ft.	Rs.
1	East Khándesh	213,000	4,354	255,105	6,024
2	West Khándesh	213,750	8,834	158,189	17,300
3	Násik	641,262	33,488	567,541	30,346
4	Ahmednagar	305	158	...	267
5	Poona	193,774	235	1,413	1,395
6	Sátára	2,230	801	25,023	12,341
7	Sholápur	129	176	302	11,155
	Total ...	1,264,450	48,096	1,007,573	78,828

181. In the two divisions of the Khándesh Collectorate some standing trees upon disforested lands were sold to be felled and removed by the purchasers, but the larger portion of the exploitation from the forests was made by privilege-holders on permits on the fee system; and the quantities of timber thus removed were greater than of last year, so that the receipts compare favourably with the results of that year.

182. The revenue under this sub-heading in the Násik Division is, for the most part, derived from teak (Tectona grandis) trees sold standing for being felled and removed upon occupied lands outside the boundaries of the reserved forests in the Peint Range. The teak trees on the cultivation lands in groups of villages are sold yearly, and a complete group was offered for sale this year, but the demand was weak, and the offers were low, and therefore, as many villages as had been put up for sale were not sold, but a few were held back; thus there is a decline apparent both in the volume of timber and in the revenue.

183. The quantity of timber removed from forests on payment of fees prescribed in Government Resolution No. 8494, dated 14th December 1887, by the residents of the 44 ghát villages of the Akola Range of the Ahmednagar Division was comparatively larger, and consequently the receipts were also greater.

184. The timber removed by purchasers in the Sátára Division consisted chiefly of teak, royalty trees, which are sold at Re. 1 per tree upon lands occupied for cultivation outside the forest boundaries, and as the demand for these trees was greater this year than last, the revenue is larger.

185. The coupe sales system in the Sholápur Division was very successful. The bábul forests on the banks of rivers and streams in the open plain country have been blocked, and divided into compartments, and some of the latter have been converted into coupes for the sale of the standing timber which has been grown during the last 20 years. The results of some of these sales may be seen in the following figures :—

Range.	Name of Forest.	Area in Acres.	Price.
			Rs.
Sholápur ...	Sholápur Coupe No. 2	33	5,141
Do. ...	Irvádi Budruk Coupe No. 1	60	1,363
Do. ...	Karkal and Lánwgi Coupe No. 1	17	1,802
Do. ...	Hátur Coupe No. 1	27	1,226
Do. ...	Hodgi do. 1	31	153
Do. ...	Márdi do. 1	33	62
Mádhé ...	Pápnus do. 1	26	262
Do. ...	Mhaisgaon do. 1	34	850
Pandharpur ...	Karkamb do. 1	16	218
	Total ...	277	11,077

These results are highly satisfactory; and they point to the very high importance of sylviculture in the champaign country of the Deccan in the great demand for wood.

186. This statement shows the quantity of firewood removed by purchasers, and the revenue obtained thereby, both by sales of coupes and by issues of permits on payment of fees :—

Division.	Firewood in cubic feet.		Receipts in Rupees.	
	1891-92.	1892-93.	1891-92.	1892 93.
East Khándesh...	1,135,280	1,299,200	9,459	10,711
West Khándesh	167,900	167,900	3,394	8,542
Násik	90,568	331,704	1,381	3,869
Ahmednagar	62,797	81,843	3,480	3,846
Poona	42,849	184,543	8,315	8,002
Sátára	9,854	20,596	468	325
Sholápur	1,692	1,585	4,337	491
Total ...	1,510,940	2,087,371	30,834	35,786

187. The following statement exhibits the bamboos which were removed by purchasers from the forests of all the divisions of the Central Circle except Sholápur, both under contracts and on permits, in head-loads, cart-loads, &c.:—

Division.	1891-92.				1892-93.			
	Bamboos removed.			Amount Realized.	Bamboos removed.			Amount realized.
	Cart-loads.	Head-loads.	Number.		Cart-loads.	Head-loads.	Number.	
				Rs.				Rs.
East Khándesh	...	...	407,845	4,674	...	...	1,131,212	10,122
West Khándesh	...	...	171,782	2,600	...	...	13,1253	4,731
Násik	...	9,989	196,203	4,702	585	...	266,637	6,189
Ahmednagar	...	...	32,847	342	...	...	46,578	773
Poona	...	...	148,422	1,540	...	...	142,151	1,477
Sátára	...	1,968	14,675	329	...	9	53,416	1,110
Total ...	...	11,957	971,774	14,187	585	9	1,771,247	24,402

188. The subjoined statement exhibits the realizations from "*minor forest produce*," including hirda (Terminalia chebula), stones, earth, thorns, fruits, rosha oil (Andropogon schœnanthus), karvi, tarwad bark (Cassia auriculata), tembhurni and apta leaves, &c., removed by purchasers from the forests, but not including the receipts by sale of grass or of the right of grazing or derived from grazing permits, compared with the results of the previous year:—

No.	Division.	Amount, 1891-92.	Amount, 1892-93.
		Rs.	Rs.
1	East Khándesh	1,208	1,665
2	West Khándesh	8,097	15,785
3	Násik...	4,544	1,774
4	Ahmednagar	1,370	1,479
5	Poona	7,414	4,634
6	Sátára...	3,340	3,045
7	Sholápur	541	67
	Total ...	26,514	28,449

III.—FREE GRANTS OF FOREST PRODUCE.

189. The following is a comparative statement of free grants of timber which have been made by Revenue Officers in almost all cases during the last three years:—

No.	Division.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1	East Khándesh	...	...	210	...
2	West Khándesh	45	142	714	458
3	Násik	267	217	177	274
4	Ahmednagar	297	10	139	...
5	Poona	539	519	709	628
6	Sátára	354	699	...	136
7	Sholápur	...	...	...	...
	Total Rs....	1,502	1,587	1,949	1,496

IV.—PRODUCE REMOVED BY RIGHT-HOLDERS AND UNDER PRIVILEGES.

190. It is quite impossible to arrive at any approximately correct estimate of the value of the timber and other forest produce removed by right-holders and concessionaries under the privileges granted to them, because the removals are not tied down to any particular portion of a forest and to any prescribed season, and are not regulated by a system of permits or passes. Suffice it to say that the quantities of timber, firewood, grass, and other minor produce removed from the forests by the wild tribes for private consumption and for barter or sale are very large.

191. The free grazing which has been allowed within the reserved forests as a privilege to agricultural and milch cattle has been controlled by issue of free grazing permits, so that it is possible to give the number of cattle entered in the privileged lists in each division, and the value of the grazing conceded to them, and these particulars will be found in the following figures:—

No.	Division.	Number of Cattle.	Value of grazing.
			Rs.
1	East Khándesh	8,898	2,587
2	West Khándesh	24,862	5,574
3	Násik...	49,552	13,541
4	Ahmednagar...	9,093	3,264
5	Poona...	105,188	24,066
6	Sátára	290,419	75,023
7	Sholápur	11,383	2,416